What is claimed is:

1. A process for producing a water-absorbent resin, which comprises the step of polymerizing at least one monomer component including acrylic acid and/or its salt as major components to produce a water-absorbent resin that is a neutralized salt, with the process being characterized in that the acrylic acid is a product obtained by catalytic gas phase oxidation of propylene and/or propane and has a protoanemonin content of not more than 10 ppm, and in that the resultant water-absorbent resin has a neutralization ratio of not less than 50 mol %.

2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the acrylic acid has a furfural content of not more than 10 ppm.

3. A process according to claim 1, which further comprises the step of subjecting the acrylic acid to an alkali treatment followed by the polymerization step.

4. A process according to claim 1, wherein the alkali treatment is a strong-alkali treatment such that the resultant neutralization ratio of the acrylic acid will be more than 100 mol %.

5. A process according to claim 1, wherein the polymerization is aqueous solution polymerization.

6. A process according to claim 1, which further comprises the step of crosslinking the vicinity of the surface of the water-absorbent resin.

7. A process according to claim 1, wherein the resultant water-absorbent resin has a water absorption capacity of not less than 25 g/g under a load (of about

1.96 kPa).

8. A process for producing a water-absorbent resin, which comprises the step of polymerizing at least one monomer component including acrylic acid and/or its salt as major components to produce a water-absorbent resin that is a neutralized salt, with the process being characterized in that the acrylic acid used as a raw material is a product being obtained by catalytic gas phase oxidation of propylene and/or propane and containing an aldehyde, and further characterized by further comprising the step of subjecting the raw acrylic acid to a strong-alkali treatment followed by the polymerization step.

9. A process according to claim 8, wherein the strong-alkali treatment is carried out at a temperature of not lower than 40 °C.